

INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD

ISO/IEC
11321

First edition
1992-12-15

**Information technology — 3,81 mm wide
magnetic tape cartridge for information
interchange — Helical scan recording —
DATA/DAT format**

*Technologies de l'information — Cartouche de bande magnétique de
3,81 mm de large pour l'échange d'information — Enregistrement
hélicoïdal — Format DATA/DAT*



Reference number
ISO/IEC 11321:1992(E)

Contents

Section 1 : General

- 1 Scope**
- 2 Conformance**
 - 2.1** Magnetic tape cartridge
 - 2.2** Generating system
 - 2.3** Receiving system
- 3 Normative references**
- 4 Definitions**
 - 4.1** Absolute Frame Number (AFN)
 - 4.2** AC erase
 - 4.3** Area ID
 - 4.4** Automatic Track Finding (ATF)
 - 4.5** Average Signal Amplitude
 - 4.6** azimuth
 - 4.7** back surface
 - 4.8** byte
 - 4.9** cartridge
 - 4.10** Channel bit
 - 4.11** Data Format ID
 - 4.12** End of Data (EOD)
 - 4.13** End of Information (EOI)
 - 4.14** End of Partition (EOP)
 - 4.15** Error Correcting Code (ECC)
 - 4.16** flux transition position

4.17	flux transition spacing	2
4.18	frame	2
4.19	group	2
4.20	Logical Beginning of Tape (L.BOT)	2
4.21	Logical End of Tape (LEOT)	2
4.22	magnetic tape	2
4.23	Master reference	2
4.24	Master Standard Amplitude Calibration Tape	2
4.25	Master Standard Reference Tape	2
4.26	optimum recording field	2
4.27	partition	2
4.28	partition reference	3
4.29	Physical Beginning of Tape (PBOT)	3
4.30	Physical End of Tape (PEOT)	3
4.31	physical recording density	3
4.32	pre-recording condition (maximum recorded levels)	3
4.33	record	3
4.34	Reference Recording Field	3
4.35	Secondary Standard Amplitude Calibration Tape	3
4.36	Secondary Standard Reference Tape	3
4.37	separator	3
4.38	Standard Reference Amplitude	3
4.39	tape noise amplitude	3
4.40	Tape Reference Edge	3
4.41	track	3
5	Environment and safety	3
5.1	Testing environment	3
5.2	Operating environment	3
5.3	Storage environment	4
5.4	Transportation	4
5.5	Safety	4
5.6	Flammability	4
 Section 2 : Requirements for the case		
6	Dimensional and mechanical characteristics of the case	4
6.1	General	4
6.2	Overall dimensions (figures 6 and 7)	5
6.3	Loading grip (figure 6)	5
6.4	Holding areas (figure 6)	5
6.5	Notches of the lid (figures 5 and 8)	6
6.6	Lid dimensions (figures 6 to 8)	6
6.7	Optical detection of the beginning and end of tape (figure 9 and 12)	7
6.8	Bottom side (figures 10 and 11)	7
6.8.1	Locking mechanism of the slider	7
6.8.2	Access holes	8
6.8.3	Recognition, sub-datum and write-inhibit holes	8
6.8.4	Datum holes	10

6.8.5	Access room for tape guides	10
6.8.6	Holes for accessing the hubs	11
6.8.7	Internal structure of the lower half (figure 12)	11
6.8.8	Light path (figure 12)	12
6.8.9	Support areas (figure 13)	12
6.8.10	Datum areas (figure 13)	12
6.8.11	Relationship between support and Datum Areas and Reference Plane Z (figure 14)	13
6.9	Hubs (figures 15, 16)	13
6.10	Leader and trailer attachment	13
6.11	Interface between the hubs and the drive spindles (figure 17)	13
6.12	Opening of the lid (figure 18)	14
6.13	Release of the hub locking mechanism (figures 19, 20)	14
6.14	Label area (figures 21, 22)	14
Section 3 : Requirements for the unrecorded tape		25
7	Mechanical, physical and dimensional characteristics of the tape	25
7.1	Materials	25
7.2	Tape length	25
7.2.1	Length of magnetic tape	25
7.2.2	Length of leader and trailer tapes	25
7.3	Tape width	25
7.4	Discontinuities	25
7.5	Total thickness	25
7.6	Longitudinal curvature	25
7.7	Cupping	25
7.8	Coating adhesion	26
7.9	Layer-to-layer adhesion	26
7.10	Tensile strength	26
7.10.1	Breaking strength	26
7.10.2	Yield strength	26
7.11	Residual elongation	27
7.12	Electrical resistance of coated surfaces	27
7.13	Light transmittance of tape	28
8	Magnetic recording characteristics	28
8.1	Optimum recording field	28
8.2	Signal Amplitude	28
8.3	Resolution	29
8.4	Overwrite	29
8.4.1	Physical Recording Densities of 750,6 and 3 002 ftpmm	29
8.4.2	Physical recording densities of 83,4 ftpmm and 1 001 ftpmm	29
8.5	Ease of erasure	30
8.6	Tape quality	30
8.6.1	Missing pulses	30
8.6.2	Missing pulse zone	30

8.7	Signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) characteristic	30
Section 4 : Format		30
9	DATA/DAT format	30
9.1	General	30
9.2	Basic Groups	31
9.2.1	Basic Groups for Group Format 0	31
9.2.2	Basic Groups for Group Format 1	32
9.3	Sub-Groups	33
9.3.1	G1 Sub-group	33
9.3.2	G2 Sub-group	34
9.3.3	G3 Sub-group	34
9.3.4	G4 Sub-group	35
9.3.5	Main Data Block	40
9.4	Sub-Data area	42
9.4.1	Pack Item No. 1	42
9.4.2	Pack Item No. 2	43
9.4.3	Pack Item No. 3	45
9.4.4	Pack Item No. 4	46
9.4.5	Pack Item No. 5	47
9.4.6	Pack Item No. 6	48
9.4.7	Pack Item No. 7	49
9.4.8	Sub Data Block	49
9.5	Basic Group structure	51
9.5.1	User Data	52
9.5.2	System Data	52
9.5.3	Record ID list	56
9.5.4	Heuristic Recovery Data Area	60
10	Method of recording	60
10.1	Physical recording density	60
10.2	Long-Term average bit cell length	60
10.3	Short-Term average bit cell length	60
10.4	Rate of change	60
10.5	Bit shift	60
10.6	Read signal amplitude	60
10.7	Maximum recorded levels	60
11	Track geometry	60
11.1	Track configuration	60
11.2	Average track pitch	61
11.3	Variations of the track pitch	61
11.4	Track width	61
11.5	Track angle	62
11.6	Track edge linearity	62

11.7	Track length	62
11.8	Ideal tape centreline	62
11.9	Azimuth angles	62
12	Recording of blocks on the tape	62
12.1	Recorded Main Data Block	62
12.2	Recorded Sub Data Block	62
12.3	Margin Blocks, Preamble Blocks and Postamble Blocks	62
12.4	Spacer Blocks	62
13	Format of a track	62
13.1	Track capacity	62
13.2	Positioning accuracy	63
13.3	Tracking scheme	63
14	Group Formats	66
14.1	Group Format 0	66
14.2	Group Format 1	66
14.3	Extended Gap Frames	67
14.3.1	Extended Leading Gap Frames	67
14.3.2	Extended Trailing Gap Frames	67
14.4	Types of Groups	67
14.4.1	Normal Groups	68
14.4.2	Spare Groups	68
14.4.3	Amble Groups	68
15	Magnetic tape layout	69
15.1	Load/Unload Area	69
15.2	Lead-in Area	70
15.2.1	Preamble	70
15.2.2	Header	70
15.2.3	Format Parameter Set	72
15.2.4	Master Reference	77
15.2.5	Postamble	83
15.3	Partition	84
15.3.1	Partition Preamble	84
15.3.2	Partition Reference	84
15.3.3	Partition Postamble	96
15.3.4	Partition Data	96
15.3.5	End of Partition (EOP)	97
15.3.6	Unused Area	97
15.4	EOI	97
15.5	Repeated Groups	97
15.6	Repeated Frames within a Normal Group	98
15.7	Relocation of Defective Groups	98

15.8	Appending	98
15.8.1	Seamless appending	99
15.8.2	Non-seamless appending	100
15.9	Overwrite (figure 83)	101
15.9.1	Overlapped track width	102
15.9.2	Non-overlapped track width	102
15.9.3	Rules for overwrite	102
Annexes		
A	Measurement of the light transmittance of the prisms	103
B	Recognition Holes	105
C	Means for opening the lid	106
D	Measurement of light transmittance of tape and leaders	107
E	Measurement of Signal-to-Noise Ratio	110
F	Method for determining the nominal and the maximum allowable recorded levels	111
G	Representation of 8-bit bytes by 10-bit pattern	112
H	Measurement of bit shift	118
J	Recommendations for transportation	121
K	Method of measuring track edge linearity	122
L	Read-After-Write	123
M	Data allocation and C3 parity	124

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC1. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO/IEC 11321 was prepared by the European Computer Manufacturers Association (as Standard ECMA-146) and was adopted, under a special "fast-track procedure", by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC1, *Information technology*, in parallel with its approval by national bodies of ISO and IEC.

Annexes A, D, E, F, G, H, K and M form an integral part of this International Standard. Annexes B, C, J and L are for information only.

Patents

During the preparation of the ECMA standard, information was gathered on patents upon which application of the standard might depend. Relevant patterns were identified as belonging to Hitachi and the Sony Corporation. However, neither ECMA nor ISO/IEC can give authoritative or comprehensive information about evidence, validity or scope of patent and like rights. The patent holders have stated that licences will be granted under reasonable and non-discriminatory terms. Communications on this subject should be addressed to

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Information technology - 3,81 mm wide magnetic tape cartridge for information interchange - Helical scan recording - DATA/DAT format

Section 1 : General

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the physical and magnetic characteristics of a 3,81 mm wide magnetic tape cartridge to enable interchangeability of such cartridges. It also specifies the quality of the recorded signals, and the format and recording method, thereby allowing data interchange by means of such magnetic tape cartridges.

2 Conformance

2.1 Magnetic tape cartridge

A tape cartridge shall be in conformance with this International Standard if it meets all mandatory requirements specified herein. The tape requirements shall be satisfied throughout the extent of the tape.

2.2 Generating system

A system generating a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance to this International Standard if all recordings on the tape meet the mandatory requirements of this International Standard.

2.3 Receiving system

A system receiving a magnetic tape cartridge for interchange shall be entitled to claim conformance with this International Standard if it is able to handle any recording made on the tape according to this International Standard.

3 Normative References

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards listed below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO/R 527:1966, *Plastics - Determination of tensile properties*

ISO/IEC 646:1991, *Information technology - ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange*.

ISO 1302:1978, *Technical Drawings - Method of indicating surface texture on drawings*

IEC 950:1990, *Safety of Information Technology Equipment, including Electrical Business Equipment*

4 Definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

4.1 Absolute Frame Number (AFN): A sequence number allocated to, and recorded in, each frame.

4.2 AC erase: A process of erasure utilizing alternating fields of decaying level.

4.3 Area ID: An identifier for each area of the tape specifying the types of frame written therein.

4.4 Automatic Track Finding (ATF): A method by which tracking is achieved.